The Impressions Of A Traveler

Mr. Buchanan a Noted English Educationalist Speaks of America.

His Views on Matters of Interest —Much Pleased With Victoria.

The impressions of a traveler are always interesting, and especially so when the traveler is observant and qualified by education and experience to form sound opinions upon the people he meets and the things he sees. Among the visitors to this city is Mr. H. M. Buchanan, a landowner of Hales, Market Drayton, in Staffordshire, who has made a study of educational methods and is the author of some notable school books now largely in use in England and about to be adapted for the schools of the United States. Mr. Buchanan has been spending a few weeks traveling through the United States and came up to Victoria from California early this week. In conversation with a Colonist reporter last evening at the Driard hotel, Mr. Buchanan said that in one respect he had been disappointed by his travels in the States. "I came out," he said, "expecting to like America and the Americans very much, but I was disappointed. In the first place there is a terrible difference in the political conditions. In the old country our best people are in public life and they must be strictly honorable and above suspicion, but in the United States it seems that corruption in politics is not only common, but is accepted by the people with the utmost indifference. I cannot imagine that a country governed in that way can prosper in the end. Moreover, the Americans, particularly in the West, do not seem to have any manners— the men are constantly expectorating and the women are strangely addicted to toothpicks, and neither habit is very nice. The way in which the traveler is treated is not conducive to comfort, the railroad and tramway people are not at all concerned in his comfort and seem to consider that the spirit of independence is best exhibited by lack of consideration for others. This indifference appears to extend even to the lives of travelers, because I find that little notice is taken of the most appalling accidents, which, if they occurred in Great Britain, would be followed by searching inquiries by the government and would cause a considerable sensation. I am afraid the dollar is the one real interest in the United States. I notice that it is the constant subject of conversation in and out of business hours, and I am sure that this must have a degrading effect upon the nation."

Turning to the subject of education, in which Mr. Buchanan is particularly interested, he said: "The system of education in the United States is very good and I was particularly struck with the teachers, who are an admirable body of men and women; in fact, I liked them much better than any other people I met in the country. I am interested in the question of religious teaching in schools, and although formerly I was inclined to favor the secular system I am changing my mind in view of what I have seen of the results in America. It ought to be possible to introduce some method of religious teaching without encroaching upon sectarian prejudices."

Mr. Buchanan then spoke of his experience in Victoria. "It is quite a relief," he said, "to come here after my stay in the United States. The people here are certainly more congenial, and the town is beautifully situated and the climate seems delightful. I have met some of your public men, Mr. McBride, the Premier, and Mr. Robinson, the superintendent of education, who, by the way, was much interested in my school books. I have endeavored in these books to provide reading matter of interest to children and dealing with country life, so that the young people may read of things they are more or less familiar with and at the same time learn what may be of use to them in later life. These books are nicely illustrated and are published by the Macmillans. I must say that I have been very much pleased with my experiences in Victoria. The schools are splendid and they appear to be much better disciplined than those of the United States. I took a class at one of the schools today and I was greatly struck with the intelligence displayed by the children as well as by their remarkably healthy appearance. They listened to what I had to say most attentively and their reading and their answers to questions I put to them proved that they are being very well taught."

Mr. Buchanan is a great admirer of the Parliament buildings, which he considers one of the most beautiful structures he has seen on this side of the Atlantic. The museum, too, in his opinion, is admirable. "It is one of the best," he remarked, "outside of London. The man who arranged the exhibits there must have been one who loved his work, it would not otherwise have been so well done."

Mr. Buchanan was asked for his views on the colonial policy in Great Britain, and naturally he had something to say about Mr. Chamberlain's preferential proposals. "It is such a large question," he said, "that I would rather deal only with the part of it which affects the agricultural interests with which, of course, I am connected. I think that if Mr. Chamberlain was ten years younger he would be almost sure to win in the end, because he is a brilliant statesman and is able, perhaps, more than any other man in England today, to persuade people to his views. Still, there are many opposing interests. (The difficulty in the way of giving preference on colonial food stuffs is, in my opinion, that it might still further depress British agriculture. Supposing, for instance a tax of two shillings a quarter was imposed on foreign wheat. The effect would be to largely increase the output of Canadian grain. Mr. J. J. Hill recently said that such a tax would enable the Canadian wheat to go in 10 cents cheaper than American wheat, and so the American stuff would have to seek a market elsewhere. Russia, the Argentine and other exporting countries would be in the same position. The result would be to depress the price of wheat until fresh markets were found, and much of the surplus grain would be used to feed stock, which would be shipped to Great Britain to the detriment of British stock raisers. Still, if our statesmen think that this preference would be to the benefit of the Empire and help to bind it closer together, I for one would not oppose it. But I think that in order to help out the British farmer a tax should be put on flour so that the grain might be milled in England. This would mean that there would be many thousand tons of millings available to feed stock at home and that the mills would be set going all over the country which would do much to keep labor in the rural districts and put an end to the deplorable influx of country people to the cities. This tax on flour would not affect the price of bread. I think it was a great pity that Mr. Ritchie, former chancellor of the exchequer, took off the shilling war tax on wheat. This tax brought in a large revenue and did not raise the price of bread, and it could have been removed from colonial and kept on foreign wheat, thus opening the way to preference without causing anxiety to the free traders."

Mr. Buchanan has a model place in Staffordshire. On his estate there are no public houses—he is a firm believer in the temperance cause—and he has a school where the children are taught according to his own methods. In politics he is a Conservative and a great admirer of Mr. Balfour, but like most Conservatives, he is a man of very liberal and broad-minded views and has great faith in the future of Greater Britain. In regard to Canada, Mr. Buchanan remarked that if ever the time comes when the Dominion wishes to achieve complete independence, British statesmen will offer no opposition, but he hopes that, whatever happens, Canada will never go into partnership with the United States.

Mr. Buchanan leaves for the Mainland on Monday and will proceed back to England by easy stages via the Northwest and Minneapolis.

LAKE CARRIERS' STRIKE.

One Steamer Clears From Cleveland, but Masters Remain Firm.

Cleveland, O., May 27.—The steamer Joliet cleared from this port today, coal laden, for Fort William. She is owned by the Pittsburg Steamship Company and belongs to the Lake Carriers' Association. District Captain Howell, of the Masters and Pilots' Association, today said: "The two or three vessels that have cleared thus far have had for their masters and mates either the owners or managers of the companies owning the boats. I am satisfied that the lake carriers will not be able to get out half a dozen boats altogether." Captain Howell today received a telegram from Detroit saying that a meeting of the masters of the association from all river harbors had been held there and that all "stood pat with not a break in the ranks." Representatives of the civic federation called upon President Livingstone, of the lake carriers, today and also upon Captain Howell, of the masters, and pilots' association to secure their views in regard to the proposed joint meeting. It is probable that both sides will make formal statements before the civic federation committee early next week.

Mining and Counter Mining

Japanese Continue to Place Obstructions and Russians Remove Them.

Gen. Kuropatkin Reports Landing of Fifty Thousand Japanese.

St. Petersburg, May 26.—The following despatch from Viceroy Alexieff, dated May 26th, has been received: "Reports from Rear Admirals Wittsoeft and Grigorovitch today state that the enemy bombarded the coast from Gensi bay with gunboats.

"On the following night the Japanese attempted to block the roadstead to Port Arthur with mines, and from shore observations it appears that some steam launches and torpedo boats were sunk.

"Between May 18 and 21 the Russians cleared eleven of the enemy's mines from the roadstead."

The general staff has received the following telegram, dated May 25th, from General Kuropatkin: "There is no change in the situation in the Fengwangcheng district. Our cavalry report that the Japanese are constructing fortifications around Fengwangcheng, where they have a force of thirty thousand infantry and two thousand cavalry with 36 field guns. The Japanese advance guard has advanced to 22 miles north of the Ai river.

"About Polandien three thousand troops of all arms and five guns are concentrated.

"According to Chinese reports a battle took place at Kinchou May 18, in which the Japanese lost 700 men. The Russian losses were not so great.

"Landing at Tauchan began five days ago, and it is reported that fifty thousand troops, principally infantry, were landed, but this has not yet been verified."

PULP LANDS ARE TO BE SURVEYED

Oriental Syndicate Awards Big Contract—Promise News Print at Early Date.

At Vancouver on Thursday the contract for the completion of the survey of 22,200 acres of timber land up the coast was awarded yesterday by the Oriental Pulp & Power Company to Mr. W. A. Bauer. The completion of this work will finish all the surveys of the company's lands and make the concession from the government complete.

The company received a concession from the Provincial government of 83,200 acres, and has already obtained leases for 61,000 acres. The erection of the pulp and paper mills will be commenced as soon as material can be placed on the site, and will be rushed to completion. According to the provincial act governing the concession, the buildings must be in place and shipping of news print started by the end of 1906.

The lands surveyed and to be surveyed are situated on Princess Royal island, Gardiner's canal, Kitamaat island, Finlayson channel, Yeo Island, Emily peninsula and Roderick island, all adjacent to the company's mill and townsite on Swanson's bay, Graham's reach, about 400 miles up the coast from Vancouver.

The timber is all spruce and of good quality, and Mr. MacKinnon, manager of the company, stated that his company would be shipping a hundred tons of news print per day by the time set forth in the contract with the government.

Mr. Bauer and his party of surveyors will go north at once to fulfil the surveying part of the contract. The work will take well into the summer, and building will go on at the same time.

The Salmon Outlook.—Sound Canners are of the opinion that the catch will be light this year, basing the belief on the traditional fourth year period of shortage, and have made their preparations accordingly. Some of the plants will not be operated this summer and others will work on a smaller scale than usual. There are others, however, who differ from that view and believe that the fish will come in larger numbers than anticipated by most fishermen. They derive their belief from the opinion that the size of the run depends upon the spring floods, and that if there is a good rise in the Fraser river in April and May that will send a large volume of fresh water far out to sea where the fish can detect it, there will be a larger run than if the floods came later and the river is low during these months.

Mrs. Tom Thumb (the Countess Magri) and some two score other midgets have arrived in New York from Europe, having been brought to this country by an enterprising showman, who will establish a colony of lilliputians at Coney Island. With them comes a giant, who is eight feet three inches tall. The midgets will give operas, dramas and other performances. They come from Buda Pest, where there is a colony of dwarfs.

The Increased Sound Mails

Building of Small Sailing and Motor Craft Keeping Yards Busy.

List of Overdue Vessels—Forager's Trial Trip Proves Satisfactory.

(From Saturday's Daily.)

Mail twice a day to and from the Sound ports is the facility placed at the disposal of the Victoria public by the Alaska Steamship Company, by means of their two steamers, Rosalie and Whatcom, one in the morning and the other in the evening. At present there are six mails a week from the Sound. Henceforth there will be twelve. The Alaska Steamship Company hope that this increase of mail facilities will help to develop business between Victoria and the Sound ports. The new service is now in operation, and will be continued as long as the double steamer service is maintained, which will probably be well on into the fall.

BUILDING IS BRISK.

Mr. A. Harris, the Rock bay boatbuilder, has a good many orders on hand for sailing and motor craft, and is keeping a force of men busy full time. Apparently the gasoline launch has taken the fancy of Victorians, for Mr. Harris reports that quite a number of orders for this style of craft are coming in. The favorite design for the hull has what is called the compromise stern; the hull being carried well out above the propellor and perpendicular and rounded somewhat like that of a modern cruiser. It is claimed for this style that it prevents the great depression of the after part seen in vessels with elliptical sterns when the craft is running fast. Mr. Harris, who is an old Thames builder, has introduced here the favorite Thames dinghy, about thirteen feet long, broad in the beam and handling nicely with a small lugsail. Those little boats are quite the fancy on the Thames, and are light, easily managed and suitable for knockabout purposes. These make an ideal craft for the harbor and Arm. Mr. Harris looks forward to the coming summer as likely to be a notable one for additions to Victoria's already very respectable fleet of pleasure craft, both sail and motor.

JEFFERSON MAY COME.

It is possible that the fine new steamer Jefferson, now rapidly approaching completion at Seattle, will visit Victoria on her trial trip early next month. Efforts to have the steamer call here on that occasion are now being made, with prospects of success. The trial trip will take place on or about June 20th. It is reported that the Jefferson already shows signs of becoming the finest ship ever turned out of Puget Sound yards, both for internal fittings and general good qualities.

OVERDUE LIST GROWS.

Seven Vessels Added to the Number Already Posted.

A special despatch to the Oregonian from San Francisco says: There was a big spurt in the overdue market today. Seven vessels were added to the list posted at the Merchants' Exchange, a larger number than has been placed on the board in a single day for years. The wholesale posting was the result of a telegram received from London reporting that the British steamer Florida, at New York from Calcutta, had passed through miles of wreckage on May 5th, 100 miles east of Nantucket lightship, consisting mostly of case oil. In the wreckage were a raft and smaboat upside down. The day before she met the wreckage the Florida experienced a very heavy gale.

All the new overdues carry cargoes of case oil, and though none of them is overdue in point of time, the report made by the Florida gives rise to fears in the case of every one of the oil carriers. Nothing has been heard from any of the vessels since they left the Atlantic Coast. All are posted at the low rate of 6 per cent and all are bound from New York or Philadelphia for points in the Far East.

The list includes the Jutepolis, Willy Rickmers, Largo Law, Queen Elizabeth, La Rochefoucauld, Wynford and Neck, all sailing vessels.

TO BE LAID UP.

The cruiser Albany, which was purchased from the Brazilian government, for whom it was built by Sir W. G. Armstrong & Mitchell Company, of England, in 1898, will arrive on Puget Sound in a few days. She comes from San Francisco, and will proceed to the Bremerton navy yard, where she will go out of commission for some time, as she has been in use continually since her acquisition. The Albany is a protected cruiser of 3,450 tons displacement, with a maximum speed of 20.5 knots. Her battery consists of six 6-inch rapid-fire guns, four 4.7 inch rapid-fire guns and the secondary battery consists of ten 6-pound rifles and eight 1-pound guns.

FORAGER'S TRIAL TRIP.

Wednesday afternoon the new steamer Forager owned by the Butler Towing Company of New Westminster and built at the Turpel shipyards, had her steam trial between the ocean docks and Race rocks. She easily exceeded her contract speed, running more than nine miles an hour at normal pressure. The vessel was accepted by the owners as completely satisfactory. She will run in the Fraser-Victoria freighting service.

FOUND IT PAID.

How Alaska Steamship Company Figured Compensation on Dollar Rate.

In conversation with Mr. E. E. Blackwood of the Alaska Steamship Company yesterday, a Colonist reporter hazarded the remark that the dollar rate for the round trip from Seattle to Victoria and return on celebration day was rather a risky experiment, and that the company perhaps had regretted their decision to offer again that exceedingly modest tariff for the trip.

Mr. Blackwood said in reply that on the contrary his company had every cause to congratulate themselves on the results of the special rate.

"We brought over more than 1,000 people to attend the celebration, and personally I have not the slightest doubt that they were attracted here by the rate we offered. Here is how I figure it out from the excursionist's point of view. He says: If I pay a dollar to travel to Victoria and back, I'll have just $1 extra to spend when I get there, and over in Victoria you can get a whole lot of fun out of a dollar.' And it paid us, too, for we carried, as I say, over 1,000 passengers, and while we were directly benefited ourselves, we had the further satisfaction of knowing that we were benefiting indirectly the merchants and citizens of Victoria. I am convinced that it was the dollar rate that captured that extra thousand people for the celebration. As for the rate being cut, it was not so at all. We have on former occasions voluntarily reduced the fare to the dollar, and have always found that the extra travel warranted that special rate on the occasions referred to. We gave that rate on the occasion of the Victoria celebration entirely of our own volition, and under no pressure whatsoever. Had we had the route altogether to ourselves that rate would have been made just the same. As I figure it out everybody benefited by this policy—the company, the Victorians and the people we carried: it was just an extra thousand people brought into Victoria, and at the lowest computation, surely an extra thousand dollars spent here during the celebration. No, we can't say we're feeling terribly blue over the experiment. In fact, we're wicked enough to hope for an early chance to repeat the same."

AMERICAN SHIP WRECKED.

Balclutha Driven Ashore in Alaskan Waters and Lost.

Disaster involving the complete destruction of the vessel, but with no loss of life, has overtaken the ship Balclutha, under charter to the Alaska Packers' Association, of San Francisco. The vessel is a total wreck in Geese island strait, Kodiak island, Alaska. A special despatch from the Post-Intelligencer's Valdez correspondent yesterday stated that all hands aboard and half the cargo had been saved. The vessel, driven by strong winds, piled up on a rocky beach and soon beat to pieces. The crew and a large number of employees of the company's Karluk cannery made shore in safety.

The Balclutha, commanded by Capt. Bremer, sailed from San Francisco April 21st for Ladysmith, where she completed her cargo with coal. From San Francisco she had cannery supplies.

Geese island strait is one of the most treacherous stretches of water in Western Alaska, and is always dreaded by mariners plying these waters.

Pope & Talbot, of San Francisco, owned the Balclutha. She was a British bottom, built at Glasgow, in 1886. At the time of the acquisition of the Hawaiian islands she was flying that flag and in that way she came into the American merchant marine fleet. She was 256.3 feet long, 38.5 feet beam and 17.5 feet depth of hold.

EXTRAORDINARY ORDER.

Amazing Regulation Now Enforced on American Steamers.

A rather amusing regulation was enforced for the first time when the Ramona sailed for the Sound last night, says the Vancouver Ledger. Perhaps it might be more correct to say that the regulation would be amusing if it were not annoying. In future all passengers who go aboard are not allowed to land again before the steamer sails. Friends who go aboard to see some of their friends off will be under the painful necessity of taking an involuntary trip to Seattle and back, as the rule is no one allowed off once they have shipped.

The way it worked out last evening for two Vancouverites amused more than one reporter who saw it. The two gentlemen went aboard to secure their berths, and, having an hour or so to spare, were about to step off and spend the last minutes with their wives, who had accompanied them down to the wharf. The stern official stepped in and refused permission. So the last connubial embrace was, perforce, dropped and the wives had to consider themselves kissed good-bye. The new regulation is understood to have something to do with the United States immigration laws. If there were a ladies' waiting room at the wharf where friends might remain until the boat sailed, it would make less bother, but as it is there were some people last night ready to lose their tickets rather than travel on the boat.

O'Brien Beats Cole.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 26.—Jack O'Brien and George Cole fought six rounds at the National Athletic Club last night, in which O'Brien had all the advantage. The first three rounds were rather tame, after which O'Brien cut Cole's face badly and forced him down for the count, and O'Brien had him hanging on all through the last round.

The Romance of An Ottawa Girl

Starts on Ten Thousand Mile Journey to Join Intended In South Africa.

While a Waitress Fell in Love With Soldier Boy Before Boer War.

New York, May 26.—The World this morning says: When the White Star liner Majestic sailed on her last trip, a passenger, Miss Bertha Alexander, a pretty Canadian girl, will take a 10,000 mile journey to Kimberley, South Africa, to marry Lieutenant Richard Rowland Thompson, and thereby complete a romance begun before the Boer war. The bride-elect was a waitress in her uncle's restaurant in Ottawa when Thompson emigrated from Cork to Canada, and fell in love with her. He enlisted for the Boer war, and his fance agreed to wait for his return. He became a private in the Forty-second Canadian volunteers and joined the first regiment sent to South Africa. Miss Alexander became an expert rider and driver in Canada, winning many prizes. Next she went to Chicago, where she was graduated as a trained nurse. She came to New York and for a year and a half was a cloak model in an important house. Her suitor meanwhile distinguished himself for bravery, rescuing under fire a comrade from death and winning the scarf knit by Queen Victoria's own hands, which she offered to the soldier in each of Great Britain's provinces who should most distinguish himself. Afterwards he won other honors. Lieutenant Thompson returned to Canada after the war, but not until after he had made for himself an opportunity in Kimberley as a mine operator. At the "Little Church Around the Corner" Miss Alexander was confirmed by Bishop Coadjutor Greer and took her first communion from Dr. Houghton on Tuesday last. Mr. Thompson's brother will meet her at Liverpool and see her aboard the Castle liner for Cape Town where Lieutenant Thompson will meet her.

BRIGHAM YOUNG'S SHREWDNESS.

From Ray Stannard Baker's "The Vitality of Mormonism" in the June Century.

Whatever else may be said of Brigham Young, he was a great general, a magnetic leader of great though undetectable power, and a shrewd lawgiver. We may scout the idea that he was in truth a divine prophet, but we may scarcely deny him a large gift of the prophetic imagination. He was, perhaps, the grossest materialist of his time, but he got results. Though men of American blood had never before attempted irrigation farming on a large scale, though the possibilities of the arid country were then undreamed, though the obstacles of great distance from supply centres, of dangers from the Indians and from famine, were seemingly insurmountable, Brigham Young saw with the eye of imagination an empire in the midst of the Great Desert, and such confidence did he place in his visions that his faith more up and inspired all his people. Natural power is not so common in the world that we can afford to refuse it recognition, even when its exercise is not unaccompanied by glaring abuses.

The matchless bravado of the dreamer! Before his followers had enough to eat, before they knew whether they would ever see another spring, Young was sending out explorers and scouts to bring reports concerning more distant valleys already planning for the extension of the Mormon empire far beyond the valley where the first settlements were made, now Salt Lake City.

Every move made by Young was characterized by a sort of diabolical shrewdness. He first reached out with covetous hands to secure control of all the water within a hundred miles or more of Great Salt Lake, knowing that this would give him absolute command of all the arable land, make him supreme dictator of the routes of travel and of the sources of food-supply—a power of no mean magnitude at a time when supply points were a thousand miles distant and freight a dollar a pound or more.

A New Request From Canners

Seek Dominion Law Prohibiting the Export of all Salmon.

Fear Americans May Invade the Fraser River and Demoralize Prices.

The Vancouver Province, in its issue of yesterday, states that cannerymen on the Mainland are desirous of arranging to have all salmon export prevented, the chief reason being that a rate war may ensue if the Americans invade the Fraser river for fish, because of the success of the traps on the West Coast of this Island. Says the Province:

Unless the Dominion government extends the scope of its prohibition regarding the exportation of sockeye salmon so that no raw salmon caught during the fishing season in Canadian waters by means of fishing shall be exported, American buyers are likely to come to the Fraser river and become a disturbing factor this summer.

As the fishing regulations stand at present, under the order in council granting the right to use traps, purse seines and drag seines, the only restriction on the export of fish is on those taken in traps. People operating purse seines, drag seines and gill nets have a perfect right to export salmon or to sell for the purpose of export.

This question of the export of raw sockeyes is a bone of contention between canners on this side of the line and those operating plants on Puget Sound. The canners on the Fraser river are very much averse to the export of salmon no matter how caught, and for some months past have been setting their views on the matter before the Ottawa government. Canners on the Sound are eagerly watching what action the Dominion government will take, as the consequences may be of great importance to them.

Last year trouble between the Canadian and American canners took place, and once the latter invaded the Fraser river to buy fish, but an agreement was reached and they withdrew. To suit the purposes of Puget Sound canners the United States government withdrew from force the tariff imposing a duty on imported salmon. Sound canners accused the Canadian canners of having gone to the salmon banks on the Sound and cut prices for fish for the express purpose of working harm to the cannery interests there. To retaliate the Americans came to the Fraser river where they would have started a fish price war had not an agreement been reached which necessitated their withdrawal.

This year all sockeyes except those caught in traps may be exported. The result will be that should the traps on the Vancouver Island coast be operated to the curtailment of the catch on the Sound, the American canners will come to the Fraser to buy, and a rate war will be forced.

It is contended by British Columbia canners that the interests of the industry can only be served if export of salmon is totally prohibited. They point out that this season they are paying a high rate for sockeyes, namely, 20 cents per fish, and that therefore there can be no complaint that prices are not right on this side of the line.

Nearly a Knockout.

Baltimore, May 27.—Joe Gans, the lightweight champion pugilist of America, defeated Jewey Cook, reputed to be the lightweight champion of England, and the welterweight champion of South Africa, tonight. Gans did the fighting throughout and floored the Englishman three times, Cook taking the count on each occasion. He quit in the eighth round after receiving right and left swings to the jaw which nearly put him out.

Brilliant Victory For Japanese

Captured Many Guns and Other Surprises Are Now In Store.

The Russian Casualties Said to Greatly Outnumber Their Assailants.

London, May 28.—The correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says he learns that the Japanese troops are now within twelve miles of Port Arthur, and that the Russians suffered heavier casualties than the Japanese, who have taken guns and other material and a few prisoners. He predicts a further surprise as Japan is now increasing her efforts in all directions.

The Tokio correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says that the Japanese captured many guns at Kinchou.

The Tokio despatch to the Associated Press and Japanese official accounts are the only detailed descriptions that have yet reached London of the brilliant Japanese victory.

St. Petersburg, May 27.—The news of the Japanese victory at Kinchou was published on a Russian holiday, the anniversary of the coronation of Emperor Nicholas. Curiously enough the news of the Japanese disaster afloat came on a similar holiday, the Emperor's birthday. While there was little information in government circles regarding the Russian defeat, the news caused some of the celebrations at Tsarskoyeselo to be shortened. Only a brief service was celebrated in the chapel instead of the customary litany and the Emperor spent the remainder of the day in the transaction of business.

Judging from its aspect the city might be celebrating a success instead of a reverse. All the houses were decorated and the cabs and street cars were all beflagged.

Investigating Sudden Death.

—Dr. Fagan, secretary of the provincial board of health, is in Vancouver investigating a serious case of sickness which developed aboard the steamer Athenian and which early on Wednesday morning culminated in death. The patient was a man named Jenkins, a second-class passenger, who had come from Hongkong. His illness has been diagnosed as that of black smallpox, a most malignant malady, which, according to medical authority, strikes a person very suddenly with few, if any, premonitory symptoms. Jenkins was examined at William Head and was apparently only suffering from the effects of a long spree.

NEW YORK DOCK STRIKE.

New York, May 27.—At the sound steamer piers along North and East rivers, where the freight handlers temporarily tied up traffic a week ago by going out on strike, there is now little or no delay in caring for the cargoes for the various boats and the congestion resulting from the temporary tie-up is being cleared away. General Superintendent Sheppard, of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railway, issued a statement today in which he says: "The strike is all over. The embargo has been raised at Jersey City and the Harlem river, and we will move nearly every car at those places today."

New Haven, Conn., May 27.—All the freight handlers employed at the local yards and docks of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railway continued at work this morning in spite of the announcement that they have been ordered out by President Curran of their international union.

A LEGATION REPORT.

Washington, May 27.—The Japanese legation has received the following details of the attack on Kinchou: "The enemy built several covered trenches around the fort and Nanshan hill and held the place stubbornly under strong defensive works. Nevertheless, after several attempts the Japanese finally succeeded in taking the enemy's position by storming and driving them toward Nankueling. This severe fight continued for sixteen hours. Admiral Togo telegraphs that a report was sent to him by wireless telegraph from the captain commanding the detached squadron consisting of four gunboats and a torpedo flotilla to the effect that the squadron reached Kinchou bay and co-operated with the army and bombarded Nanshan hill on May 26th, and on witnessing our army occupying the forts on the hill the squadron withdrew from the scene of the action. The captain of the gunboat Shokai was killed and nine others killed and wounded. The damage to the vessels was insignificant."

France and The Vatican

The Chamber of Deputies Sustains President Loubet's Recent Action.

Radicals Wished to Push Matters Further But Are Restrained.

Paris, May 27.—After an exciting debate, in which Premier Combes and Foreign Minister Delcasse set forth the action and purposes of the government towards the Vatican, the Chamber of Deputies today, by a vote of 427 to 95, approved the recall of M. Nisard, ambassador to the Vatican, and rejected all propositions of the extreme element for an immediate dissolution of the relations between church and state. A resolution proposed by M. Ferrett, Republican-Nationalist, inviting the government to negotiate with Pope Pius for a separation of church and state, was defeated. A motion by M. Allard, Socialist, to break off all negotiations with the Vatican and denounce the concordat, was defeated by 385 to 146. Premier Combes took the initiative in resisting all efforts to force the government to extreme action and his request that all questions regarding the separation of church and state go over until next January was the effect of postponing separation beyond the present session of parliament.

M. Bibot, the minority leader, voted in support of the government. Premier Combes urged the chamber to leave the debate to its true significance. The holy see, he said, in a document hurtful to France, had denounced to certain European powers the insult which it alleged the head of the French state had inflicted upon it by returning, in the indisputed capital of his kingdom, the visit received from the King of Italy and by refusing to admit the claim of the Ultramontanes to prerogatives represented as untenable. The government had answered this document by immediately recalling the ambassador to the Vatican.

"This recall," said Premier Combes, "signifies that we cannot allow the holy see to interpret the absence of our ambassador in Rome in a sense favorable to its claim, or to make use of his presence to justify pretensions which we reject. It also means that we will not allow the papacy to intermeddle in our international relations, and that we intend to have done once for all with the superannuated fiction of temporal power which disappeared thirty-four years ago."

Foreign Minister Delcasse traced the history of the question and said the government did what the dignity of the country required and with the necessary promptitude, and we have right to the opinion of the whole world on our side."

Rome, May 27.—The Vatican authorities followed closely the debate in the French Chamber of Deputies today on the relations of France to the Vatican, reports of which were taken to the Pope by Cardinal Merry Del Val, papal secretary of state.

The minister of the principality of Monaco, in the name of Prince Albert, denies that the government of Monaco divulged the text of the papal note concerning President Loubet's visit to Rome. The minister says that such action "would correspond to treason."

WEEKLY WEATHER SYNOPSIS.

Victoria Meteorological Office, May 28 to 30, 1904.—Weather conditions have been more favorable during the past week and are rapidly assuming the "summer type." The pressure, which has been highest on the coast from California northward, has greatly increased in British Columbia. Very little rain has fallen in the province, and only a moderate amount in the Pacific states. Vegetation is fast advancing, owing to the greater amount of bright sunshine, and reports from all sections are most favorable; temperatures have been somewhat higher, reaching 100 in the valley of the Sacramento, Cal. A few light frosts occurred, chiefly on the upper Mainland and on the higher lands in Eastern Oregon and Washington. Winds were mostly light to moderate with occasional fresh gales at the entrance to the Columbia river. A few thunderstorms occurred both in the Pacific states and in the Northwest. East of the Rockies it was much warmer during the first part of the week, but conditions changed towards the close and a cold spell ensued with sharp frosts and snowfall in the Territories. Further north in the Yukon the weather has been fair and moderately warm.

At Victoria there were 72 hours and 24 minutes of bright sunshine recorded; the highest temperature was 67.7 on the 21st; and the lowest 44.2 on the 20th; only a trace of rainfall.

At New Westminster the highest temperature was 70 on the 24th; lowest 36 on the 24th; rainfall 0.10 inch.

At Kamloops, highest temperature 76 on 20th; lowest 36 on 24th; rain 0.04 inch.

At Barkerville, highest temperature 62 on 20th; lowest 24 on 24th; precipitation 0.06 inch.

At Dawson, highest temperature 58 on 19th, 20th and 23rd; lowest 32 on 19th, 20th. No precipitation.

Eddie—Aren't you sorry that you are an only child? Freddie—Oh, no: I don't mind it, but it's tough on pa. Eddie—How so? Freddie—Well, you see, I'm getting too big for him to have to take me to the circus, and there aren't any younger kids in the family for him to fail back on.—Brooklyn Life.

Gen. Kuropatkin Reports Progress

Official Account of Movements of the Armies in the Field.

Continued Landing of Men and Stores By the Japanese Emphasized.

St. Petersburg, May 27.—General Kuropatkin, under date of May 26th, telegraphs the Emperor as follows: "Reconnaissances on May 25th in the direction of Fengwangcheng showed that a detachment of the Japanese vanguard was occupying Koumendza pass, near the village of Sladiandan, on the Liaoyang main road. Small detachments have taken up positions in the villages along the Liaoyang road, between Koumendza pass and Saludjan. Tehangaline pass has been fortified and a stronger force of Japanese had been found at Saludjan and at Dallandiapuse, where the Haicheng road starts. Since May 16 small detachments of Japanese have been moving towards Haicheng. These detachments concentrated in the Tehandahoan district, ten miles from Dallandiapuse. Sinkhalin pass is reported to be occupied by the Japanese. A Russian patrol had a skirmish May 20 on the Haicheng road with one of the enemy's advance posts. One Cossack was wounded. On May 24 our patrol reported that Japanese troops were moving from Habarbin towards the Taying river. Our patrol found an encampment of three Japanese companies, who opened fire. On May 24 troops of the Japanese advance guard were posted in the southern portion of the Liaotung peninsula at the villages of Sanshilipu and Sandiaza, ten miles from Ponchou towards the railway, and also at a point six miles south of Wafandian station and as far as the village of Sadiatoren, twelve miles from Wafandian, as well as on the road from Pitsewo to Senlouchan. A continual landing of troops and stores is proceeding at Pitsewo and Siakhoouvitse. The latter point is occupied by a strong garrison. According to information which requires verification, the force of 18,000 Japanese had been landed at Takushan, together with several heavy guns, each drawn by eighteen horses. It is rumored that Korean soldiers are accompanying the Japanese troops. A movement of Japanese troops from Takushan to Salitszaipudsa is reported from Habalin, near which fortifications are being constructed."

The Hastings Races.

Vancouver, May 26.—The chief attraction here yesterday was the second day of the spring race meeting at Hastings, and the grand stand and members' enclosure were filled to capacity long before the bell rang for the first race. The crowd was one of the biggest that ever got into the Jockey Club's premises.

It was a sporty crowd, too, and the bookmakers got good play on every event.

The results were as follows:

Trot or pace, 2:40 class; purse $150—1st, The Primer (H. Growth); 2nd, Bamford Boy (Jas. Bowman); 3rd, Napper Tandy (Jas. McGeer).

Half mile pony handicap—1st, Bessie Trimble (O'Neil); 2nd, Little Bessie (McGraw); 3rd, Sleepy Dan (Patterson). Time, 59.

Four and a half furlongs; purse $125—1st, Eldred (Smith); 2nd, B. C. Green (Southall). Two others started. Time, 59.

King Edward's handicap, 1⅛ mile; purse, $200—1st, Major Dixon (A. Smith); 2nd, Candator (Southall); 3rd, Bernadell's (Groves). Time, 2:04. One other started.

Gentleman's sweepstakes and plate, handicap—1st, Mary Anderson (T. Patton); 2nd, Reciprocity (R. Sheldon-Williams). Time, 1:27. Three others ran.

Consolation, six furlongs; purse, $100—1st, Jim Bozeman (O'Neil); 2nd, Pepper Sauce (Olsen); 3rd, Mafada (Groves). Time 1:22. Two others started.

Brooklyn Handicap.

New York, May 26.—The Picket won the Brooklyn handicap. Irish Lad was second and Proper third. Time, 2:06 3-5.

ANNUAL CLERICUS OF EPISCOPALIANS

Victoria Represented at Important Meeting Now In Progress at Seattle.

Victoria and British Columbia is represented at the convocation of Episcopalians now in progress at Seattle. Of the opening session the Post-Intelligencer says: One of the most interesting sessions of the annual clericus of the Episcopal church for the dioceses and districts of New Westminster, Kootenay, Caledonia, Columbia, Spokane, Oregon and Olympia was held yesterday in Trinity parish church when the sanctity of marriage was discussed by several of the clergymen. It was the consensus of opinion that in the United States the divorce and marriage laws were altogether too lax, and the delegates to the clericus put themselves on record as supporting legislation that would tend to discourage divorces.

The discussion took place at the morning's session of the convocation and was participated in by Bishop Wells, of Spokane; Rev. H. G. P. Clinton, of Vancouver, B. C., and Rev. J. E. Simpson, of Portland. Mr. Simpson said in part:

"Marriage is one of the most, if not the most, sacred institutions of the church and it is obligatory for us to take a strong stand against anything that will tend to render it less sacred. The church must take a firm and high stand on the matter. The marriage of communicants by the clergy is the highest type of holy matrimony and constitutes a Christian union, providing the parties who wed do so with the same sacred idea of the step they are taking as do the priests who officiate. All marriages consummated by the church, no matter what the religious affiliation of the parties concerned, are sacred and we must hold inviolate the nondissolubility of the marriage tie."

Bishop Wells, of the Spokane diocese, argued that the sanctity of the family is the first duty to teach, and that, if this idea should become firmly impressed upon the minds of the American people there would be less necessity for laws restricting divorces. Mr. Clinton said:

"Let the clergy make careful inquiry into the characters and aims of the people coming to them for the performance of the marriage tie, and there will be, you will find, a sensible diminution of the divorce evil. It is more a matter of education than anything else that will lead to a realization of the sacredness of the marriage relation and the moral sin in attempting, through divorce, to sever the tie."

At 2 o'clock several papers were read on the education of the clergy and the suggested remedies for any defects that might now be found in fitting men out for the field of church work. Rev. C. C. Owen, of Vancouver, B. C.; Rev. W. D. Barber, of Victoria, B. C., and Rev. Dr. Webb, of Tacoma, were the principal speakers. A general discussion of the subject followed.

In the evening "The Church and the Bible" and "The Bible for Modern Readers" were the topics for discussion, and the leaders in the discussion were the Ven. Archdeacon Scriven, of Victoria, B. C.; the Rev. J. P. D. Llwyd, rector of St. Mark's, of this city; the Rev. A. A. Morrison, of Portland, and the Rev. F. K. Howard, of Olympia.